

**MINUTES OF THE
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2007**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historical Design Review Commission was called to order on February 6, 2007 at 6:05 p.m. by Chairman Merz in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kosla, Smith, Thompson, Worthington, Briggs, Elder, Chrm. Merz

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kidd

STAFF PRESENT: Will Wong, Community Development Director; Reg Murray, Senior Planner; Sue Fraizer, Administrative Assistant

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

ITEM II: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 16, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

ITEM IV: PUBLIC COMMENT

Betty Jensen of 171 Tennis Way expressed her interest in the development of co-housing. She is particularly interested in seeing a possible co-housing proposal made on the Blocker Drive property that the City owns.

ITEM V: PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A. **Historic Design Review – 343 Commercial Street (Casa Design Studio) – File HDR 07-2.** The applicant requests Historic Design Review approval for applied window graphics and one (1) under canopy hanging sign for Casa custom home design located at 343 Commercial Street.

Planner Murray gave the staff report. The under canopy sign is a 4' x 2' oval sign, roughly 7 square feet in size and is in compliance with the size requirements. The sign is painted black wood.

Commissioner Elder arrived at the meeting.

The window graphics will be vinyl type letters that will be applied to the window, as well as to the hanging sign. Although the window graphics are not consistent with the design guidelines, it is permitted for the Commission to consider on a case by case basis whether alternative materials are appropriate. It is noted that there are a number of locations in Old Town with applied window graphics made of synthetic materials. With this prior precedent, if the sign is well done and tasteful, staff has no objections to the proposal.

Comm. Kosla asked for clarification about the replacement of the proposed vinyl on the sign with another material.

Planner Murray replied that it would be necessary to either replace the vinyl or have the lettering painted onto the sign. The letters would need to be an alternative color to the dark background color so that they would stand out. This would also apply to the window graphics.

Comm. Kosla stated that he feels it would best if the window sign and the hanging sign are painted so that they match.

The public hearing was opened.

The applicant was not available for comment.

There was discussion about why the Commission may want to consider the use of alternative materials.

Comm. Worthington mentioned that Sierra Moon, as mentioned in the staff report, did an excellent job of making the gold leaf synthetic lettering in the window match their painted hanging sign.

There was discussion about a condition to require that the gold leaf match on both signs.

Comm. Worthington **MOVED** to:

Add a condition to Resolution No. 07-1 for Casa custom home design located at 343 Commercial Street stating that the lettering provided on the hanging sign shall be painted onto the sign instead of using gold leaf lettering. The lettering shall match the gold leaf lettering on the windows.

Comm. Kosla **SECONDED**.

AYES: Kosla, Smith, Thompson, Worthington, Briggs, Elder,
Chrm. Merz
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd

The motion was approved.

Comm. Worthington **MOVED** to:

Adopt Resolution No. 07-1 as modified by the Historic Design Review Commission, approving applied window graphics and one under canopy hanging sign for Casa custom home design located at 343 Commercial Street.

Comm. Elder **SECONDED**.

AYES: Kosla, Smith, Thompson, Worthington, Briggs, Elder,
Chrm. Merz
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd

The motion was approved.

ITEM VI: COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Discussion of HDRC priorities list

The Commissioners discussed the priorities list provided in the packet with staff.

Comm. Briggs **MOVED** to:

Keep the Historic Design Review Commission priorities list with the number one priority of Historic Colors, and the number two priority of the Sign Ordinance.

Comm. Elder **SECONDED**.

AYES: Kosla, Smith, Thompson, Worthington, Briggs, Elder,
Chrm. Merz
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd

The motion was approved.

ITEM VII: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

- A. City Council Meetings
None
- B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings
There will be a meeting on February 20, 2007. The revision to the design guidelines for plastic letters will be on the agenda.
- C. Reports
None

ITEM VIII: HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS

Comm. Smith asked about the status of the Car Lot sign and the Hanami Sushi sign.

Planner Murray replied that staff is aware that the raceway on the Hanami Sushi sign does not match and will be following up with the business owner to bring it into compliance.

Planner Geiger replied that the Car Lot sign was not built according to the approval. They can either rebuild it with the approved metal, or come back before the Commission with an amendment to allow the existing wood sign to remain. Staff will be following up on it.

Comm. Kosla asked about the status of the Elmwood Hotel.

Planner Geiger replied that repainting is in process, wood is being replaced on the front façade, and the owner has been very cooperative with staff.

Comm. Briggs reported that the Downtown Business Association is reviewing the list of businesses displaying illegal banners provided by staff. The Association will assist staff by contacting the businesses and will inform staff when that has been done.

ITEM IX: FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ITEM X: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fraizer, Administrative Assistant